

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

I. Amendments to the Claims

Claims 2, 3, 11, 14 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended to incorporate the features of claims 2, 3, 11, 14 and 17 that depend therefrom and have been amended to clarify features of the invention recited therein.

In addition, claims 4, 5, 7, 15 and 16 have been amended to remain consistent with the above-mentioned amendments and cancellations.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection

Claims 1-3, 6-14, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Kondo and Matsuno. This rejection is believed clearly inapplicable to independent claims 1, 12 and 13 and the claims that depend therefrom for the following reasons. Independent claim 1 recites an inter-station transmission method used in a mobile communication system comprising a mobile station and a base station. Further, claim 1 recites that the transmission method includes (i) in the radio base station, transmitting uplink transmission data from the radio base station to the communication control station in a TDMA frame format used for a radio link between the radio base station and the mobile station, and (ii) transmitting downlink transmission data, in the TDMA format, from the communication control

station to the radio base station, wherein the downlink transmission data includes a channel data packet to be transmitted in a TDMA frame, and includes dummy data for reproducing a radio base station reception clock in a period in which the channel data packet to be transmitted is not present.

Initially, please note that the above-described 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection relies on Kondo for teaching the above-mentioned features, previously recited in dependent claims 2, 3 and 11. However, in view of the above-identified amendments to claim 1 to include limitations similar to those previously recited in claims 2, 3 and 11 and in view of the distinguishing features discussed below, it is submitted that Kondo fails to disclose or suggest the above-mentioned features now recited in amended independent claim 1.

However, Kondo teaches that wired cables 4-a and 4-b transmit channel data and teaches that wired cables 15-a1 and 15-b1 transmit a reset pulse for synchronizing radio base stations, such that wired cables 4-a and 4-b and wired cables 15-a1 and 15-b1 are separate and separately transmit the channel data packet and the reset pulse for synchronization (see Fig. 1 and col. 6, lines 10-14). Therefore, according to Kondo, when a channel data packet and a reset pulse are simultaneously transmitted from the communication control station, the channel data packet and the reset pulse can be concurrently processed in the radio base station, such that there is no precise predetermined timing between the transmission/processing of the channel data packet and the reset pulse.

Thus, in view of the above, it is clear that, according to Kondo, the channel data packet and the reset pulse are transmitted separately, such that there is no precise predetermined timing between the transmission/processing of the channel data packet and the reset pulse. These features of Kondo are not a disclosure or a suggestion of transmitting downlink transmission data

from the communication control station to the radio base station, wherein the downlink transmission data includes a channel data packet to be transmitted in a TDMA frame, and includes dummy data for reproducing a radio base station reception clock in a period in which the channel data packet to be transmitted is not present, as recited in claim 1.

In other words, because Kondo teaches that the channel data packet and the reset pulse are separately transmitted without using a precise predetermined timing, Kondo fails to disclose or suggest transmitting the downlink transmission data including the channel data packet to be transmitted in a TDMA frame, and including dummy data for reproducing a radio base station reception clock in a period in which the channel data packet to be transmitted is not present, as required by claim 1.

Applicants also note that, because claim 1 recites that the TDMA frame format is used for a radio link between the radio base station and the mobile station and that the TDMA frame format is used for transmission between the communication control station and the radio base station, it is possible to reduce a delay time that would occur from a format conversion. Further, because claim 1 recites that the transmission of the downlink transmission data that includes the channel data to be transmitted in the TDMA frame, and includes the dummy data for reproducing the clock inserted therein in a period in which the channel data packet to be transmitted is not present, it is possible to improve clock stability at a time when a radio base station reception clock (synchronized with a communication control station transmission clock) is reproduced from the downlink transmission data, which in turn suppresses jitter of the radio base station reception clock with respect to the communication control station transmission clock.

In view of the above, Applicants note that because Kondo merely teaches that the channel data packet and the reset pulse are separately transmitted without using a precise predetermined

timing, Kondo does not provide a structure that makes it possible to improve clock stability at a time when a radio base station reception clock (synchronized with a communication control station transmission clock) is reproduced from the downlink transmission data, which in turn suppresses jitter of the radio base station reception clock with respect to the communication control station transmission clock, which is a result of the structure required by claim 1.

Therefore, because of the above-mentioned distinctions it is believed clear that independent claim 1 and claims 4-10 that depend therefrom would not have been obvious or result from the combination of Kondo and Matsuno.

Furthermore, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Kondo and/or Matsuno or elsewhere in the prior art of record which would have caused a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Kondo and/or Matsuno to obtain the invention of independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 and claims 4-10 that depend therefrom are clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

Amended independent claims 12 and 13 are directed to a method and a system, respectively and each recite features that are similar to and/or correspond to at least some of the above-mentioned distinguishing features and the result of the structure required by independent claim 1. Thus, for the same reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 12, 13, 15 and 16 are allowable over the combination of Kondo and Matsuno.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance and an early notification thereof is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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